

**United States Patent and Trademark Office**

Examiner: Rada, R.

Art Unit: 3721

Docket No. 3429

In re:

Applicant: STIERLE, P., et al

Serial No.: 10/550,047

Filed: September 21, 2005

**AMENDMENT**

December 20, 2006

Hon. Commissioner of  
Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sirs:

Responsive to the Office Action of October 6, 2006, please amend the  
application as follows: